

# On the universality of multipliers on $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{C})$

José A. Conejero<sup>a,\*</sup>, Vladimír Müller<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> *Instituto Universitario de Matemática Pura y Aplicada, Universidad Politécnica de Valencia, 46022 Valencia, Spain*

<sup>b</sup> *Mathematical Institute, Czech Academy of Sciences, Žitná 25, 115 67 Prague 1, Czech Republic*

Received 1 December 2008; received in revised form 29 October 2009; accepted 9 November 2009

Available online 4 December 2009

Communicated by Andrei Martinez-Finkelshtein

---

## Abstract

In this paper we study the universal behaviour of multipliers on the space  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{C})$  of entire functions endowed with the compact open topology.

© 2009 Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

**Keywords:** Universal functions; Entire functions; Polynomial approximation; Non-convolution operators; Multipliers

---

## 1. Introduction

Let  $\mathcal{T} = \{T_n\} \subset L(X)$  be a sequence of continuous linear operators acting on a separable infinite-dimensional  $\mathcal{F}$ -space  $X$ . This sequence is said to be *universal* if there exists  $x \in X$  such that its orbit under  $\mathcal{T}$ , that is  $\text{Orb}(\mathcal{T}, x) := \{T_n x : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ , is dense in  $X$ . If  $X$  is a function space, such a vector  $x$  is said to be a *universal function* for  $\mathcal{T}$ . If  $T_n := T^n$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , for some  $T \in L(X)$ , the universal elements are called *hypercyclic*.

Some of the first examples of universal behaviour of linear operators on linear spaces were provided on the space of entire functions  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{C})$ , endowed with the compact open topology. Birkhoff [10] proved the universality of the sequence of translations  $T_n f(z) := f(z + n)$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , on  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{C})$  using the Runge theorem. MacLane [30] did it for the sequence of powers of the derivative operator  $Df(z) := f'(z)$ . For a recent account on the proof of these results, see [4].

---

\* Corresponding author.

E-mail addresses: [aconejero@mat.upv.es](mailto:aconejero@mat.upv.es) (J.A. Conejero), [muller@math.cas.cz](mailto:muller@math.cas.cz) (V. Müller).

URL: <http://personales.upv.es/jococa1> (J.A. Conejero).

The derivative operator has also been treated by Bonet on weighted inductive limits of spaces of holomorphic functions [11], and on weighted spaces of entire functions [12]. Details concerning the influence of the Birkhoff and MacLane operators on the development of universality (and hypercyclicity) can be found in [23, Sec. 4.a and 4.c]; see also [23,13,24,32].

The above-mentioned seminal examples led to a more comprehensive study of these phenomena by Godefroy and Shapiro in [22]. They showed that every convolution operator on  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{C}^N)$  (a continuous linear operator that commutes with all translations, or equivalently commutes with each partial differential operator) that is not a multiple of the identity is hypercyclic [22, Th. 5.1].

On the other hand, examples of non-convolution operators on  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{C})$  can be found in [19]; see also [4], where the hypercyclicity of the operators  $(T_{\lambda,b}f)(z) := f'(\lambda z + b)$  for  $|\lambda| \geq 1$  and  $b \neq 0$  is shown. Other examples in  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{C}^N)$  can be found in [34].

For a nonempty compact set  $K \subset \mathbb{C}$ , let  $\mathcal{A}(K)$  be the Banach space of all functions which are continuous on  $K$  and holomorphic in its interior. In [27], Luh studied the existence of holomorphic functions which have some universal properties simultaneously, for several sequences of operators. The existence of such functions is easy to see in the case of hypercyclicity, since the set of all hypercyclic vectors of an operator is a residual set. For instance, there are entire functions which are simultaneously hypercyclic for a translation and the derivative operator on  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{C})$ . In fact, these operators share a dense subspace, whose nonnull functions are hypercyclic for both operators [24, Prop. 1], and there is a residual set of entire functions which are hypercyclic for the translation operator, and all of their powers are hypercyclic for the derivative operator [3]. The study of existence of common universal or hypercyclic vectors for families of operators is an area of intensive work (see, e.g., [1,2,5,6,17,26,15]).

For an entire function  $\varphi$  we denote by  $\varphi^{(j)}$  its derivative of order  $j$ , if  $j \in \mathbb{N}_0$ ; and if  $-j \in \mathbb{N}$  we denote as  $\varphi^{(j)}(z) = \int_0^z \varphi^{(j+1)}(t)dt$  the normalized antiderivative of  $\varphi$  of order  $-j$ .

**Theorem 1.1** ([27]). *Let  $\{z_n\}_n$  be an unbounded sequence in  $\mathbb{C}$ . There exists an entire function  $\varphi$  such that for each nonempty compact subset  $K \subset \mathbb{C}$  with connected complement we have:*

1. *for any fixed  $j \in \mathbb{Z}$  the sequence  $\{\varphi^{(j)}(z + z_n)\}_n$  is dense in  $\mathcal{A}(K)$ ;*
2. *for any fixed  $j \in \mathbb{Z}$  the sequence  $\{\varphi^{(j)}(zz_n)\}_n$  is dense in  $\mathcal{A}(K)$ , if  $0 \notin K$ ;*
3. *the sequence of derivatives  $\{\varphi^{[|z_n|]}(z)\}_n$  is dense in  $\mathcal{A}(K)$ .*

In this result, 1.1.1 is an extension of the Birkhoff example for the derivatives of  $\varphi$ . On the other hand, 1.1.2 is an extension of a result of Zappa on the existence of a holomorphic function on  $\mathbb{C}^* := \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$  such that  $\{\varphi(nz)\}_n$  is dense in  $\mathcal{A}(K)$  for every nonempty compact set  $K \subset \mathbb{C}^*$  whose complement is connected in  $\mathbb{C}^*$  [35]. Approximation theorems of Runge and Mergelyan can be refined considering lacunary polynomials [18,33,20,21,28]. So it is not surprising that functions which simultaneously verify 1.1.1 and 1.1.2 can have lacunary power series [29].

A non-convolution operator  $T$  on  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{C})$  defined as  $Tf(z) = (zf)'(z)$  was introduced in [31]. It generalizes the MacLane operator but preserves the initial lacunas in the power series of a function along all the orbit under  $\{T^n\}_n$ . This operator cannot be hypercyclic in  $X = \mathcal{H}(\mathbb{C})$  nor in  $X = \{f \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbb{C}) : f(0) = 0\}$ : Given  $f(z) := \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k z^k$ , we have  $T(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k z^k) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (k+1)a_k z^k$ , and hence  $T^n(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k z^k) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (k+1)^n a_k z^k$ . Take an arbitrary  $k_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ . By continuity of the projection  $\pi_{k_0} : \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k z^k \rightarrow a_{k_0}$ , we have that  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k z^k$  can only be hypercyclic for  $T$  on  $X$  if  $((k_0+1)^n a_{k_0})_n$  is dense in  $\mathbb{C}$ , which leads to a contradiction.

However, in [31] there can be found results in the sense of [Theorem 1.1](#) for the operator  $T$  instead of the derivative operator. But in [31, Th. 2] the computation of  $T^{n_k}$  results in a serious gap (just take  $\{z_n\}_n = \{n\}_n$  and  $Q = \mathbb{N}_0$ ). This was pointed out by Grosse-Erdmann [25]. In this paper we provide a general result that provides a correct proof of this statement.

## 2. Main section

Let  $K \subset \mathbb{C}$  be a nonempty compact set. We define the radius of  $K$  as  $\text{rad}(K) := \sup\{|z| : z \in K\}$ , and given  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  let  $d(\lambda, K) := \inf\{|\lambda - z| : z \in K\}$  be the distance of  $\lambda$  to  $K$ . In addition, for every  $f \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbb{C})$  we define its supremum norm on  $K$  as  $\|f\|_K := \sup\{|f(z)| : z \in K\}$ .

Let  $K \subset \mathbb{C}$  be a nonempty compact set with connected complement and  $\lambda \notin K$ . By the Runge theorem, the function  $\frac{1}{\lambda - z}$  can be approximated by polynomials uniformly on  $K$ . The next lemma is a quantitative version of the Runge theorem — it gives an estimate of the degree of the approximating polynomial.

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $K \subset \mathbb{C}$  be a nonempty compact set with connected complement. Let  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus K$  and  $s > 0$ . Then, the following property holds, namely (\*):*

*There exists  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for every  $n, j \in \mathbb{N}$ , with  $j \leq n$ , there is a polynomial  $p$  satisfying  $\deg(p) \leq kn$  and*

$$\left\| p(z) - \frac{1}{(\lambda - z)^j} \right\|_K \leq \frac{1}{s^n}.$$

**Proof.** Fix  $K$  as in the hypothesis. The proof will be carried out in several steps.

*Step 1. Property (\*) holds for every  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus K$  with  $|\lambda| > \max\{4 \text{rad}(K), 2\}$ .*

Fix  $\lambda$  as indicated, and  $s > 0$ . Let  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  satisfy  $2^k > s$ . For every  $z \in K$  we have

$$\frac{1}{(\lambda - z)^j} = \left( \frac{1}{\lambda} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{z}{\lambda} \right)^l \right)^j = \frac{1}{\lambda^j} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{z}{\lambda} \right)^l \binom{l+j-1}{j-1} \quad \text{for every } j \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Let  $n, j \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $j \leq n$ . Consider the polynomial

$$p_j(z) := \frac{1}{\lambda^j} \sum_{l=0}^{kn} \left( \frac{z}{\lambda} \right)^l \binom{l+j-1}{j-1}$$

with  $\deg(p_j) \leq kn$ . Since  $|z/\lambda| < 1/4$  for all  $z \in K$ , and  $\binom{n}{m} \leq 2^n$  for all  $m \leq n$ , we get

$$\left\| p_j(z) - \frac{1}{(\lambda - z)^j} \right\|_K \leq \frac{1}{|\lambda|^j} \sum_{l=kn+1}^{\infty} \frac{2^{l+j-1}}{4^l} \leq \frac{2^j}{|\lambda|^j} \sum_{l=kn+1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^l} \leq \frac{1}{2^{kn}} \leq \frac{1}{s^n}.$$

*Step 2. If property (\*) holds for some  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus K$ , then it also holds for each  $\lambda' \in \mathbb{C} \setminus K$  such that  $|\lambda' - \lambda| < \min\{1, d(\lambda, K)/4\}$ .*

Fix  $\lambda, \lambda'$  as in the statement. Let  $s' > 0$ , without loss of generality we can assume that  $s' \geq \max\{1, 4|\lambda|\}$  and  $d(\lambda, K) > 1/s'$ . Choose  $s > 4s'$ . By the assumption, there exists  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that (\*) holds for  $\lambda, s$  and  $k$ . Let us take  $k'' \in \mathbb{N}$  satisfying  $2^{k''} > 4s'^2$  and define  $k' := k(k'' + 1)$ . We show that property (\*) holds for  $\lambda', s'$  and  $k'$ .

Let  $n, j \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $j \leq n$ . For every  $z \in K$  we have

$$\frac{1}{(\lambda' - z)^j} = \left( \frac{1}{\lambda - z} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{\lambda - \lambda'}{\lambda - z} \right)^l \right)^j = \frac{1}{(\lambda - z)^j} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{\lambda - \lambda'}{\lambda - z} \right)^l \binom{l+j-1}{j-1}.$$

On the one hand, we have

$$\left\| \frac{1}{(\lambda - z)^j} \sum_{l=k''n+1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{\lambda - \lambda'}{\lambda - z} \right)^l \binom{l+j-1}{j-1} \right\|_K \leq \sum_{l=k''n+1}^{\infty} \frac{s'^j 2^{l+j-1}}{4^l} \leq \frac{(2s')^j}{2^{k''n}} \\ \leq \frac{(2s')^n}{(4s'^2)^n} \leq \frac{1}{2s'^n},$$

which lets us construct the required polynomial. By hypothesis, for every  $0 \leq r \leq k''n + n$  there exists a polynomial  $q_r$  such that  $\deg(q_r) \leq (k''n + n)k = k'n$  and

$$\left\| q_r(z) - \frac{1}{(\lambda - z)^r} \right\|_K \leq \frac{1}{s^{k''n+n}}.$$

We show that the polynomial

$$p_j(z) := \sum_{l=0}^{k''n} \binom{l+j-1}{j-1} (\lambda - \lambda')^l q_{l+j}(z)$$

satisfies the required conditions. Clearly,  $\deg(p_j) \leq k'n$ . Furthermore,

$$\left\| p_j(z) - \frac{1}{(\lambda' - z)^j} \right\|_K \leq \sum_{l=0}^{k''n} \binom{l+j-1}{j-1} |\lambda - \lambda'|^l \left\| q_{l+j} - \frac{1}{(\lambda - z)^{l+j}} \right\|_K + \frac{1}{2s'^n} \\ \leq \frac{1}{2s'^n} + \frac{1}{s^{k''n+n}} \sum_{l=0}^{k''n} 2^{l+j-1} |\lambda - \lambda'|^l \leq \frac{1}{2s'^n} + \frac{2^{k''n+n}}{s^{k''n+n}} \leq \frac{1}{s'^n}.$$

*Step 3. Property (\*) holds for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus K$ .*

Denote by  $A$  the set of all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus K$  for which (\*) holds. By Step 1,  $A$  is nonvoid. Since, by Step 2,  $A$  is open in  $\mathbb{C} \setminus K$ , we only have to show that it is also relatively closed, and then  $A = \mathbb{C} \setminus K$ . Take an arbitrary sequence  $(\lambda_n)_n \subset A$  tending to  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus K$ . We take  $n' \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $|\lambda - \lambda_{n'}| < 1$  and  $|\lambda - \lambda_{n'}| < d(\lambda, K)/5$ . So  $d(\lambda_{n'}, K) \geq d(\lambda, K) - |\lambda_{n'} - \lambda| \geq 4|\lambda_{n'} - \lambda|$ , and by Step 2 we get that  $\lambda \in A$ . Hence  $A \subset \mathbb{C} \setminus K$  is a nonempty, relatively open and closed subset. Since  $K$  has connected complement, we have  $A = \mathbb{C} \setminus K$ .  $\square$

Given a sequence  $\{\gamma_k\} \subset \mathbb{C}$ , we consider the multiplier operator  $T : \mathcal{H}(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}(\mathbb{C})$  defined for every  $f(z) := \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k z^k \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbb{C})$  as  $(Tf)(z) := \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \gamma_k a_k z^k$ . This operator is well defined whenever  $\limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[k]{|\gamma_k|} < \infty$ .

**Theorem 2.2.** *Let  $T$  be the multiplier operator associated with a sequence  $\{\gamma_k\} \subset \mathbb{C}^*$  which verifies  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} |\gamma_k| = \infty$  and  $\limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[k]{|\gamma_k|} < \infty$ . Let  $K \subset \mathbb{C}$  be a nonempty compact set with connected complement and  $0 \notin K$ . Let  $p$  be a polynomial and let  $\varepsilon, R > 0$ . Then there exists  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for each  $n \geq N$ :*

1. *there exists a polynomial  $h_1$  such that  $\|T^n h_1 - p\|_K < \varepsilon$  and  $\|h_1\|_{B(0,R)} < \varepsilon$ ;*
2. *there exists a polynomial  $h_2$  such that  $\|T^n h_2\|_K < \varepsilon$  and  $\|h_2 - p\|_{B(0,R)} < \varepsilon$ .*

**Proof.** Choose a compact set  $K'$  with connected complement such that  $K \subset \text{int}(K')$  and  $0 \notin K'$ . Fix  $a \in K$ , an arbitrary polynomial  $p(z) := \sum_{j=0}^{\deg(p)} \beta_j z^j$ , and choose  $s$  such that  $B(a, 1/s) \subset K'$ , and

$$s > \max \left\{ \frac{1}{\varepsilon}, 2, R, \text{rad}(K'), \|z^{-1}\|_{K'}, \|p\|_{K'}, \sum_{j=0}^{\deg(p)} |\beta_j|, \deg(p), |\gamma_0|, \dots, |\gamma_{\deg(p)}| \right\}.$$

Let  $k$  be the number obtained in Lemma 2.1 such that for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  there exists a polynomial  $q_n$  with  $\deg(q_n) \leq kn$ , and  $\|q_n - 1/z^n\|_{K'} < 1/s^{4n}$ . Clearly

$$\|q_n\|_{K'} \leq \left\| q_n - \frac{1}{z^n} \right\|_{K'} + \left\| \frac{1}{z^n} \right\|_{K'} \leq \frac{1}{s^{4n}} + \left\| \frac{1}{z^n} \right\|_{K'} \leq 1 + s^n \leq s^{n+1}.$$

Firstly, let us prove (1): Take  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $n > \deg(p)$ ,  $n \geq 3$  and  $|\gamma_m| \geq s^{3k+7}$  ( $m \geq n$ ). This yields the following estimation

$$\|p - z^n p q_n\|_K \leq \|p\|_K \|z^n\|_K \left\| q_n - \frac{1}{z^n} \right\|_K \leq \frac{s^{n+1}}{s^{4n}} < \frac{1}{s} < \varepsilon$$

and  $\deg(p q_n) \leq n + kn$ . Therefore we can write  $p q_n(z) = \sum_{j=0}^{kn+n} \alpha_j (z-a)^j$ . By the Cauchy formula,  $|\alpha_j| \leq \|p q_n\|_{K'} s^j \leq s^{n+j+2}$  for every  $0 \leq j \leq kn+n$ . Now, the polynomial

$$h_1(z) := \sum_{j=0}^{kn+n} \alpha_j \sum_{l=0}^j \binom{j}{l} \frac{z^{n+l}}{\gamma_{n+l}^n} (-a)^{j-l}$$

verifies

$$T^n h_1(z) = z^n \sum_{j=0}^{kn+n} \alpha_j \sum_{l=0}^j \binom{j}{l} z^l (-a)^{j-l} = z^n p(z) q_n(z),$$

hence  $\|T^n h_1 - p\|_K < \varepsilon$ . Furthermore,

$$\begin{aligned} \|h_1\|_{B(0,R)} &\leq \sum_{j=0}^{kn+n} |\alpha_j| \sum_{l=0}^j \binom{j}{l} \frac{s^{n+l} s^{j-l}}{|\gamma_{n+l}|^n} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\min\{|\gamma_m|^n : m \geq n\}} \sum_{j=0}^{kn+n} s^{2n+3j+2} \leq \frac{1}{s^n} < \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Finally, let us prove (2): For every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n > \deg(p)$  and  $|\gamma_m| > s^{3k+9}$  ( $m \geq n$ ), we have  $T^n p(z) = \sum_{j=0}^{\deg(p)} \beta_j \gamma_j^n z^j$  and

$$\|T^n p\|_{K'} \leq \sum_{j=0}^{\deg(p)} |\beta_j| \cdot |\gamma_j|^n s^j \leq s^n s^{\deg(p)} \sum_{j=0}^{\deg(p)} |\beta_j| \leq s^{2n}.$$

Hence

$$\|T^n p - z^n (T^n p) q_n\|_{K'} \leq \|T^n p\|_{K'} \|z^n\|_{K'} \left\| \frac{1}{z^n} - q_n \right\|_{K'} \leq \frac{s^{2n} s^n}{s^{4n}} \leq \frac{1}{s^n} < \varepsilon.$$

Now, let us write,  $(T^n p)(z) q_n(z) = \sum_{j=0}^{kn+n} \alpha'_j (z-a)^j$ . As above, for each  $0 \leq j \leq kn+n$  we have  $|\alpha'_j| \leq \|(T^n p)(z) q_n(z)\|_{K'} s^j \leq s^{3n+j+1}$ .

Let  $g(z) := \sum_{j=0}^{kn+n} \alpha'_j \sum_{l=0}^j \binom{j}{l} \frac{z^{n+l}}{\gamma_{n+l}^n} (-a)^{j-l}$ . Then  $g$  is a polynomial satisfying

$$T^n g(z) = z^n \sum_{j=0}^{kn+n} \alpha'_j \sum_{l=0}^j \binom{j}{l} z^l (-a)^{j-l} = z^n \sum_{j=0}^{kn+n} \alpha'_j (z-a)^j = z^n T^n p(z) q_n(z).$$

Hence  $\|T^n g - T^n p\|_K < \varepsilon$ . Furthermore,

$$\begin{aligned} \|g\|_{B(0,R)} &\leq \sum_{j=0}^{kn+n} |\alpha'_j| \sum_{l=0}^j \binom{j}{l} \frac{s^{n+l} s^{j-l}}{|\gamma_{n+l}|^n} \\ &\leq \sum_{j=0}^{kn+n} \frac{s^{3n+j+1} 2^j s^{n+j}}{\min\{|\gamma_m|^n : m \geq n\}} \leq \frac{s^{3kn+7n+2}}{s^{(3k+9)n}} \leq \frac{1}{s^n} < \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Finally, taking  $h_2 := p - g$  we get (2).  $\square$

Notice that Theorem 2.2, of independent interest, is in fact a universality criterion; see [22,14,23,9,8,16]. Combining the two statements of Theorem 2.2 we get the following:

**Corollary 2.3.** *Let  $\{\gamma_k\} \subset \mathbb{C}^*$  and  $T$  as in Theorem 2.2. Let  $L, K \subset \mathbb{C}$  be nonempty compact sets with connected complements and  $0 \notin K$ . Let  $f \in \mathcal{A}(L)$ ,  $g \in \mathcal{A}(K)$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Then there is some  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that, for all  $n \geq N$ , there is an entire function  $h$  such that*

$$\|h - f\|_L < \varepsilon \quad \text{and} \quad \|T^n h - g\|_K < \varepsilon.$$

**Proof.** Take  $R > 0$  such that  $L \subset \text{int } B(0, R)$ . By the Runge theorem there are two polynomials  $p_1, p_2$  such that  $\|g - p_1\|_K < \varepsilon/2$  and  $\|f - p_2\|_{B(0,R)} < \varepsilon/2$ . By Theorem 2.2 we have that there are two polynomials  $h_1, h_2$  such that  $\|T^n h_1 - p_1\|_K < \varepsilon/4$  with  $\|h_1\|_{B(0,R)} < \varepsilon/4$ , and  $\|T^n h_2\|_K < \varepsilon/4$  with  $\|h_2 - p_2\|_{B(0,R)} < \varepsilon/4$ . Taking  $h := h_1 + h_2$  the conclusion holds.  $\square$

We apply the previous theorem to the operator  $T(f)(z) \mapsto (zf)'$ .

**Lemma 2.4** ([27]). *There exists a sequence of nonempty compact sets  $K_n \subset \mathbb{C}$  with connected complement such that  $0 \notin K_n$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and for any compact set  $K \subset \mathbb{C}$  with  $0 \notin K$  and connected complement there exists some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  for which  $K \subset K_n$ .*

To see a simple argument, note that for each simply connected compact set  $K \subset \mathbb{C}$  with  $0 \notin K$  there exist  $n, r \in \mathbb{N}$  and a finite sequence  $a_1, \dots, a_k$  of complex numbers with rational real and imaginary parts such that  $K \subset \{z \in \mathbb{C} : n^{-1} < |z| < n\}$  and  $d\{K, \Gamma\} > r^{-1}$ , where  $\Gamma$  is the piecewise linear curve connecting  $n^{-1}$  and  $n$ , with vertices  $a_1, \dots, a_k$ . Hence  $K \subset \{z : n^{-1} \leq |z| \leq n, d\{z, \Gamma\} \geq r^{-1}\}$ . Note that the sets on the right-hand side of the last formula form a countable system of simply connected compact sets not containing 0, whenever  $\Gamma$  is simply connected and  $r$  is sufficiently big.

Finally, we obtain as a corollary the statement of Theorem 2 in [31].

**Corollary 2.5.** *Let  $\{\gamma_k\} \subset \mathbb{C}^*$  be a sequence verifying  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} |\gamma_k| = \infty$  and  $\limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[k]{|\gamma_k|} < \infty$ . There exists  $f(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k z^k \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbb{C})$  with the following property: for every nonempty compact set  $K \subset \mathbb{C}$  with connected complement,  $0 \notin K$ ,  $g \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbb{C})$ , and  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\|\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \gamma_k^n a_k z^k - g(z)\|_K < \varepsilon$ .*

**Proof.** By the Birkhoff transitivity theorem, taking into account that Lemma 2.4 reduces the problem to countably many  $K$ 's, we have a residual set  $A \subset \mathcal{H}(\mathbb{C})$  such that each  $f \in A$  verifies the desired property; see [23, Sec. I, Prop. 3].  $\square$

Actually, by Theorem 2.2, we have a mixing property of the operators considered here; see e.g. [7].

The former statement of Martirosian and Martirosyan was concerning the existence of such a universal function with a prescribed lacunary power series. The following question remains open:

**Question 2.6.** For which subsets  $A \subset \mathbb{N}$  is it possible to find  $\varphi \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbb{C})$  of the form  $\varphi(z) := \sum_{k=0; k \in A}^{\infty} a_k z^k$  verifying the statement of Corollary 2.5?

## Acknowledgments

The authors are grateful to Karl G. Grosse-Erdmann for pointing out to us the gap in [31], and for the helpful comments. The first author acknowledges the hospitality of the Institute of Mathematics of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, during March–April 2008, where this result was obtained. He was partially supported by Conselleria de Educació de la Generalitat Valenciana BEST/2008/135 and by MEC and FEDER, Project MTM2007-64222. The second author was supported by grant no. 201/09/0473 of GA CR and by IRP AV OZ 10190503. We also thank the referee for the helpful comments.

## References

- [1] E. Abakumov, J. Gordon, Common hypercyclic vectors for multiples of backward shift, *J. Funct. Anal.* 200 (2) (2003) 494–504.
- [2] R. Aron, J. Bès, F. León, A. Peris, Operators with common hypercyclic subspaces, *J. Oper. Theory* 54 (2) (2005) 251–260.
- [3] R.M. Aron, J.A. Conejero, A. Peris, J.B. Seoane-Sepúlveda, Powers of hypercyclic functions for some classical hypercyclic operators, *Integral Equations Operator Theory* 58 (4) (2007) 591–596.
- [4] R. Aron, D. Markose, On universal functions, *J. Korean Math. Soc.* 41 (1) (2004) 65–76, satellite Conference on Infinite Dimensional Function Theory.
- [5] F. Bayart, Common hypercyclic vectors for composition operators, *J. Oper. Theory* 52 (2) (2004) 353–370.
- [6] F. Bayart, É. Matheron, How to get common universal vectors, *Indiana Univ. Math. J.* 56 (2) (2007) 553–580.
- [7] T. Bermúdez, A. Bonilla, J.A. Conejero, A. Peris, Hypercyclic, topologically mixing and chaotic semigroups on Banach spaces, *Studia. Math.* 170 (1) (2005) 57–75.
- [8] T. Bermúdez, A. Bonilla, A. Peris, On hypercyclicity and supercyclicity criteria, *Bull. Austral. Math. Soc.* 70 (1) (2004) 45–54.
- [9] L. Bernal-González, K.-G. Grosse-Erdmann, The hypercyclicity criterion for sequences of operators, *Studia Math.* 157 (1) (2003) 17–32.
- [10] G. Birkhoff, Démonstration d’un théorème élémentaire sur les fonctions entières, *C. R. Math. Acad. Sci. Paris* 189 (2) (1929) 473–475.
- [11] J. Bonet, Hypercyclic and chaotic convolution operators, *J. London Math. Soc.* (2) 62 (1) (2000) 253–262.
- [12] J. Bonet, Dynamics of the differentiation operator on weighted spaces of entire functions, *Math. Z.* 261 (3) (2009) 649–657.
- [13] J. Bonet, F. Martínez-Giménez, A. Peris, Linear chaos on Fréchet spaces, *Internat. J. Bifur. Chaos Appl. Sci. Engrg.* 13 (7) (2003) 1649–1655, dynamical systems and functional equations (Murcia, 2000).
- [14] J. Bès, A. Peris, Hereditarily hypercyclic operators, *J. Funct. Anal.* 167 (1) (1999) 94–112.
- [15] J.A. Conejero, V. Müller, A. Peris, Hypercyclic behaviour of operators in a hypercyclic  $C_0$ -semigroup, *J. Funct. Anal.* 244 (1) (2007) 342–348.
- [16] J.A. Conejero, A. Peris, Linear transitivity criteria, *Topology Appl.* 153 (5–6) (2005) 767–773.
- [17] G. Costakis, M. Sambarino, Genericity of wild holomorphic functions and common hypercyclic vectors, *Adv. Math.* 182 (2) (2004) 278–306.
- [18] M. Dixon, J. Korevaar, Approximation by lacunary polynomials, *Nederl. Akad. Wetensch. Proc. Ser. A 80=Indag. Math.* 39 (3) (1977) 176–194.
- [19] G. Fernández, A.A. Hallack, Remarks on a result about hypercyclic non-convolution operators, *J. Math. Anal. Appl.* 309 (1) (2005) 52–55.

- [20] T.L. Gharibyan, W. Luh, J. Müller, Approximation by lacunary polynomials and applications to universal functions, *Analysis (Munich)* 23 (3) (2003) 199–214.
- [21] T.L. Gharibyan, W. Luh, J. Müller, Lacunary summability and analytic continuation of power series, *Analysis (Munich)* 24 (3) (2004) 255–271.
- [22] G. Godefroy, J.H. Shapiro, Operators with dense, invariant, cyclic vector manifolds, *J. Funct. Anal.* 98 (2) (1991) 229–269.
- [23] K.-G. Grosse-Erdmann, Universal families and hypercyclic operators, *Bull. Amer. Math. Soc. (NS)* 36 (3) (1999) 345–381.
- [24] K.-G. Grosse-Erdmann, Recent developments in hypercyclicity, *RACSAM Rev. R. Acad. Cienc. Exactas Fís. Nat. Ser. A Mat.* 97 (2) (2003) 273–286.
- [25] K.-G. Grosse-Erdmann, Personal communication.
- [26] F. León-Saavedra, V. Müller, Rotations of hypercyclic and supercyclic operators, *Integral Equations Operator Theory* 50 (3) (2004) 385–391.
- [27] W. Luh, Entire functions with various universal properties, *Complex Variables Theory Appl.* 31 (1) (1996) 87–96.
- [28] W. Luh, V.A. Martirosian, J. Müller, Restricted  $T$ -universal functions, *J. Approx. Theory* 114 (2) (2002) 201–213.
- [29] W. Luh, V.A. Martirosian, J. Müller, Universal entire functions with gap power series, *Indag. Math. (NS)* 9 (4) (1998) 529–536.
- [30] G.R. MacLane, Sequences of derivatives and normal families, *J. Analyse Math.* 2 (1952) 72–87.
- [31] V.A. Martirosyan, A.Z. Martirosyan, Universal properties of entire functions representable by lacunary power series, *Izv. Nats. Akad. Nauk Armenii Mat.* 39 (3) (2004) 39–46 (2005).
- [32] V. Müller, Spectral Theory of Linear Operators and Spectral Systems in Banach Algebras, 2nd ed., in: *Operator Theory: Advances and Applications*, vol. 139, Birkhäuser Verlag, Basel, 2007.
- [33] J. Müller, Approximation with lacunary polynomials in the complex plane, in: *Approximation interpolation and summability (Ramat Aviv, 1990/Ramat Gan, 1990)*, vol. 4 of *Israel Math. Conf. Proc.*, Bar-Ilan Univ., Ramat Gan, 1991, pp. 217–224.
- [34] H. Petersson, Supercyclic and hypercyclic non-convolution operators, *J. Oper. Theory* 55 (1) (2006) 135–151.
- [35] P. Zappa, On universal holomorphic functions, in: *Conference on Analytic Geometry and Complex Analysis (Rocca di Papa, 1988)*, Sem. Conf., vol. 3, EditEl, Rende, 1990, pp. 99–104 (in Italian).